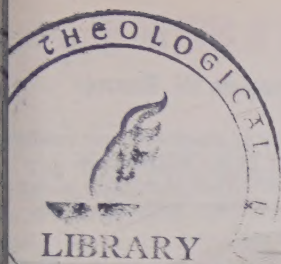




World

DECEMBER 1978



1962

WYOMING BRANCH, NEW HAVEN
OCTOBER 9-12, 1978



The Cover . . .

Delegates to the 18th World's and 16th India Convention gather at the modern Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India. (Left to right — Burkhardt Weber, Germany; Alf Chesterton, Australia; Bill Sharpe, England; Murray Chambers, Australia; Sister Renate, Germany; Konrad and Jutta Brandt, Germany; Ulrich Weber, Germany; Frances Becker, U.S.A.; Sam Johnson, Sierra Leone; and Jim Heron, Scotland)

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Coming Events . . .

April 20-22 — World's Union Executive Committee, Liberty Corner, New Jersey

April 26-28 — International Society Finance and Executive Committees, Columbus, Ohio

July 3-7 — 55th International Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii

June 28-July 13 — Fellowship Tours to Hawaii

AS I SEE IT

by Charles W. Barner

We are happy to share with our readers in this issue of **THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD** highlights of the 18th World's and 16th India Christian Endeavor Conventions.

Our guest editor for this issue is Miss Frances M. Becker, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, vice-president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union. "Becky" was a member of the North American tour party and served as coordinator of the morning devotional sessions of the convention.

Extensive flooding from New Delhi to Calcutta in North India prior to the convention held down the attendance but 3,000 delegates taxed the facilities of the Vigyan Bhawan.

During the time of the convention God called home two loved ones of Christian Endeavorers who were participating in the convention activities.

Hans Weber, son of Ulrich Weber, leader of a German tour group and brother of Burkhardt Weber, interpreter for the convention, was killed in an accident while visiting in the United States.

Samuel Kuhnert of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and president of the Lehigh Valley CELTS (Christian Endeavor Long Timers), who with his wife, Jean, was a member of the American tour party, was taken to be with the Lord while flying from India to Germany on an Air India 747.

THE

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World

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18th WORLD'S AND 16th INDIA CONVENTION

By President Arno Pagel

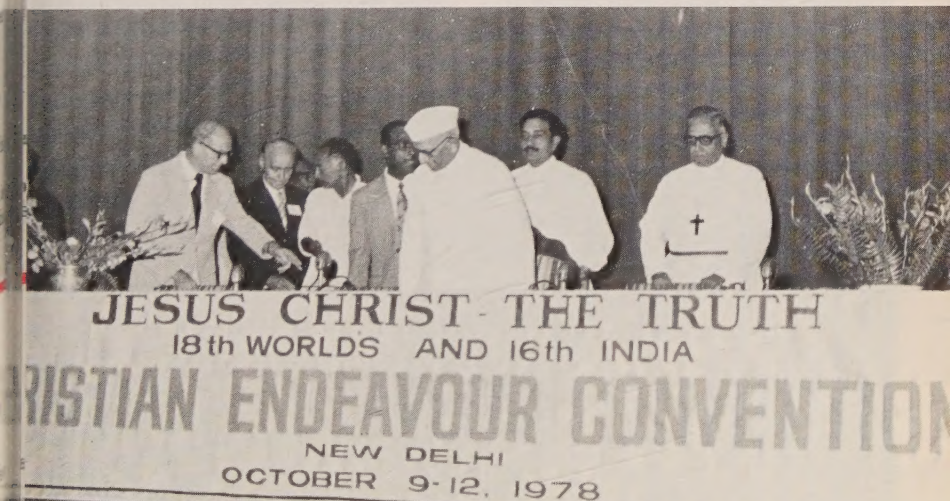
The 18th World's Christian Endeavor Convention in New Delhi, India, October 9-12 was a wonderful success. We not only saw our brothers and sisters from many parts of the world but we prayed together, planned together, worshipped together, worked together, sang together, and praised God for His wonderful words, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

Jesus Christ — the Truth. This was our convention theme in India. It should not be restricted to this place or to these days. It should be the confession and the motto of our whole life. May we all be encouraged and enabled to go forward and let the world see through our word and our work that Christ, the Truth, is really in our midst.

In India, the World's Union Board of Trustees took affirmative action to expand Christian Endeavor in Asia. Several Indian leaders, including the new

president, J. S. Delvis, and the general secretary, B. K. Pramanik, were commissioned to visit Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to establish Christian Endeavor societies. These brethren, who know the language and culture, will lead the way in calling youth in these countries to commit their lives to Jesus Christ.

Plans were also made for the 19th World's Christian Endeavor Convention which will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our movement. This great event will be held concurrently with the International Christian Endeavor Convention, August 12-16, 1981, in Portland, Maine, to coincide with the founding of Christian Endeavor. Konrad Brandt of Germany is chairman of the Program Committee. May we request your active interest and participation in our centenary celebration by praying, working and giving for Christ and the Church.



Hon. Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India, prepares to address the convention.

INDIA HOSTS THE WORLD CONVENTION

by Bishop Henry Lazarus
President, India Christian Endeavor Union

The 18th World's Christian Endeavour Convention was held in New Delhi, the capital city of India. We were proud to hold this convention in Vigyan Bhawan, one of the few large meeting places in Asia. We had all the facilities needed for a World Convention. The hall could accommodate nearly 2,000 people, with facilities for translation into four different languages.

More than three hundred delegates came from different parts of the world. The largest group was from West Germany, with three delegates from East Germany as well. There were delegates from all five continents.

As early as the 6th of October, Indian delegates started pouring in. Arrangements were made for their stay in the Methodist High Schools and Boarding Homes in Old Delhi. In spite of threatening reports about floods of the River Jamuna, the convention arrangements were not upset. Over 1500 delegates came from different states in India with very large numbers from Bengal, Bihar, Orissa Unions and Tamilnadu.

On October 9th, the preconvention prayer meeting began with Bishop A. A. Akpan of Nigeria presiding. The choir was led by Jim Hunter, Radio Music Director. The message was given by Bishop Henry Lazarus, president, India Christian Endeavour Union. The opening session of the convention followed, with everyone eagerly looking forward to the arrival of the Prime Minister, the Hon. Morarji Desai. On his arrival, he was garlanded by the World's President and the India Union President and presented with a purse for the relief fund by the Moderator of the Church of North India, the most Rev. Eric S. Nasir.

The Prime Minister said he was delighted to accept the invitation because of his close association with Christians and the regular study of the Bible during his college days. He continues to be a regular student in the study of religions and wishes that the Christian Endeavour Convention and movement would work to bring about peace and joy among nations. The President, World's Christian Endeavor, Rev. Arno Pagel of West Germany gave his opening address on the



Hon. Morarji Desai is welcomed by Rev. Charles Barner, Rev. Arno Pagel and Indian Leaders.

theme of the convention, "JESUS CHRIST, THE TRUTH."

The following day, Bible study was introduced by Rev. Timothy J. Kribs, president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, followed by the session on "Worldwide Fellowship" led by Konrad Brandt from West Germany. Presidents of various national unions, dressed in colorful national dress or carrying their national flags, brought greetings. In the afternoon, practically all the Indian Unions participated in a program of Indian music organized by Mr. J. S. Delvis.

The evening meetings were attended by many local people and Mr. Prakash Yesudian of Bangalore gave the message on "JESUS CHRIST, THE TRUTH." He dealt with the need for accepting Jesus Christ as truth in our lives in a practical way.

What does the convention mean to me?

My first concern was as to how I could assist in the arrangements, living more than two thousand kilometers away from Delhi. With several trips to Delhi and continued correspondence, our oneness through prayer revealed that the spirit of Jesus Christ prevailed among us. The local committee did a very splendid job, and all of us with one voice can say, "It

was the Lord's doing." Concerning finances, I had the assurance through God's word, in Philippians 4:19, "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches." Surely He answered our prayers, for we closed our accounts with a credit balance. As for the messages, I received a deeper insight into the implications of "Jesus, the Truth" with convictions for a greater commitment.

What does the convention mean to the National Union?

By enabling us to come together and work together for Christ and His Church, many dead societies were revived, and the ones which were active have been strengthened through the great fellowship we experienced. Through the project and relief work, we worked hand in hand with West German Christian Endeavour, and we really had a vision of the wider scope for the Christian Endeavour movement in this land of ours.

What was this convention for all of us from all over the world?

These were days when we experienced the Pentecost once again. Jesus Christ was surely in our midst. Our unity was a real witness through our singing, prayers, and Bible study, and all of us have stored away happy memories of Delhi which will enable us to bear witness to "Jesus, the Truth."



Indian officers are installed during the convention.

A YOUTH WITNESS FROM GERMANY

Burkhard Weber

India is a hot country, isn't it? While traveling through this land with a group of German Christian Endeavourers, before the World's Christian Endeavour Convention, we were looking for two things — cold drinks and pure, cold water.

This reminded me of a story about a group of village people from a dry desert area, without any proper water supply, who were visiting a large city. One of the things that impressed them the most was the seemingly endless flow of running water that came from the faucets. They were amazed at being able to merely turn a handle and get all the water they wanted. When those village people were ready to return home, they were found with wrenches in their hands, preparing to remove the taps. They thought that if they could just take them to their desert area, all their water problems would be solved. They didn't realize that a proper connection to an abundant source was necessary and that, without being hooked into an efficient water system, a faucet in itself is useless.

Why am I telling this? Because it is my personal testimony. Once I behaved just like those foolish village people. Having grown up in a Christian family and being active in Christian Endeavor, I did have the Christian exterior, but I wasn't

hooked into the Christian supply system. Then, one day I found out that there is Someone who can establish a proper connection, a correct relationship to the Source. It is Jesus Christ.

Let me share five illustrations with you:

- It's nice to have a water tap, but it's useless without a connection to a water system.
- It's nice to have an electric lamp, but it's useless if I don't plug it into an electric system.
- It's nice to have a Christian background, but it's useless if it's tradition and heritage only.
- It's nice to be active in Christian Endeavor, but it's useless if there is no relationship with God through personal faith in Jesus Christ.
- It's nice to attend a World Convention, but it's useless if I miss my chance of being connected with the supply system of Christ's redeeming love.

I have experienced in my personal life that living without that connection is empty and useless. I thank God that He has provided the Lord Jesus Christ as the only connection with Him. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6



German choir provides special music during the convention.



American tour group at the Taj Mahal.

BITS AND PIECES FROM INDIA—

• 120 Germans toured India prior to the convention. They traveled in three groups, visiting mission projects sponsored by them and through them by the All India Christian Endeavor Union.

• Rev. Murray Chambers from Australia lost his eyeglasses in Delhi. One of the Indian Christian Endeavorers took him to an eye doctor for new glasses at 11 a.m. one day. At 3 p.m. that same day he got his new glasses for which he paid \$10. He could see so well with his new glasses, and it was such a bargain, he bought a second pair. What a spectacle!

• Jean Kuhnert of Allentown, Pennsylvania, unexpectedly became the day-time pianist at the convention and did an excellent job.

• Among the most sought after delegates were three from the German Democratic Republic, who came to Delhi largely through the personal intervention of World's Union President Arno Pagel.

• We missed Past-President Dr. Clyde Meadows at the convention and hope that Mrs. Meadows is feeling much better.

• The home of Rev. S. K. Masih, traveling secretary from Delhi and convention registrar, was surrounded by four feet of flood waters, yet he registered 2,300 delegates in time for the convention.

• Clyde Sherk of Canada almost left three suit coats in Madras. He would have created quite a stir returning to Canada in a dhoti.

• This is the emblem of the 18th World's Convention. It was accompanied by the following description.



"The lotus is the national flower of India. It blooms at the first rays of the sun. The lotus holds the world, and the Christian Endeavor monogram is on India, as the convention is held in India. We wish that the rays of Jesus Christ will open the petals and beauties in many Christian Endeavorers during this convention, for the service of Christ and the Church."



Don Hudson, American youth witness.

Two Young Americans in India

Donna Stewart, a 16-year old from Welland, Ontario, Canada, and Don Hudson, a 21-year old from West Virginia, flew to India for the World's Christian Endeavor Convention with the American tour group. In Bombay, India, they joined a German young people's group for nine days, traveling around India by train. We've asked them to share their experiences with us. *Donna says: I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to go to India. I knew very little about India and had done very little traveling, so it was a wonderful experience.*

Traveling by train and bus, we saw parts of India we could not have seen any other way. The countryside was beautiful but it was hard to believe that the poorer Indians could live as they do. The people were very friendly and I enjoyed talking with them to find out more about the way they live. It is so different from Canada.

The German young people we traveled with were great. They translated their language into English for us, and everyone helped to make Don and me more comfortable. I think they were excellent travel buddies and friends.

I am especially grateful and thank the Lord for the German nurses who were on the trip. I got sick while we were traveling and I was helped by these concerned friends. I shall never forget their help.

The convention meetings in New Delhi were exciting and, again, it was interesting to meet new people. I found the speakers challenging and found myself learning more and more.

The entire trip was a rich spiritual experience and I shall always be thankful for the many blessings I received.

Don states: With eyes wide open, the American tour group to the 18th World's Convention entered Bombay at approximately 2 a.m. on the twenty-sixth of September. From the start, our hearts bled for the poor, having no home but the outdoors, no bed but the sidewalk.

It was my opportunity to tour by train with one of three groups of the German delegation. Donna Stewart from Canada and I will never forget the experiences and friends made during this time. Again, the poverty was evident as we traveled the heart of India by train. In and out of train stations at very late and very early

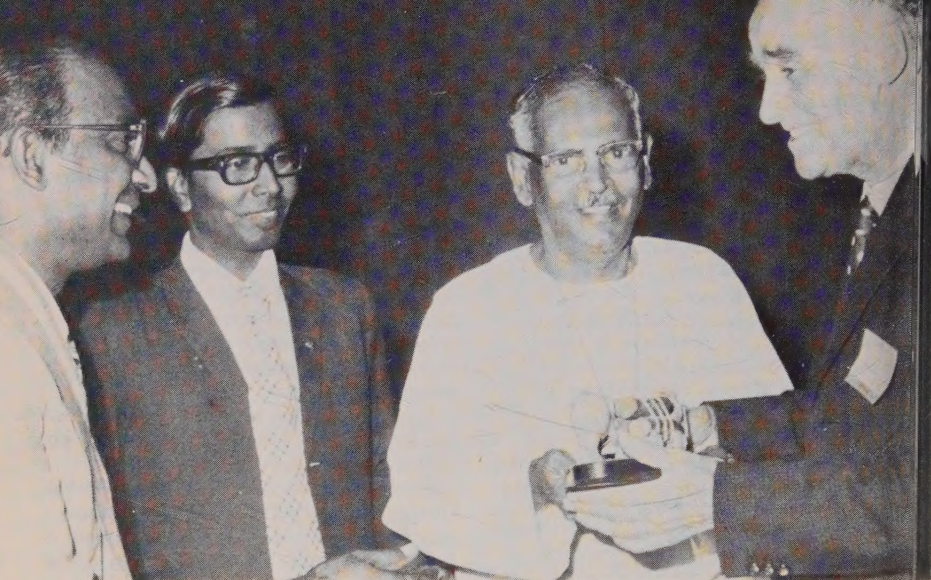
hours disclosed sleeping Indians — some resting on their store counters, some with the shoe-shine kits at their feet, some with their babies in their arms. All of them had a different way of life; it seemed so drastically different from what I was used to. I wasn't prepared to see India, as Indians live life. I didn't want to see the poverty, the heathen religions, the dedication evident in the religious temples. My friend, Arch McQuilkin, helped me understand that this was India and he inspired me to serve the Lord in a greater capacity.

Some day I hope to return to India, but not as a tourist. I hope to return with my sleeves rolled up, rather than with a camera in my hands, prepared to present Christ to those without Him, not in any way to change India to suit me, but to help change India's religious life to please God.

I'll forever be indebted to the International Christian Endeavor Society for this phenomenal experience. What I've seen and heard has changed my life, has inspired me to serve Christ and the Church in a greater way.



American tour group sings at convention.



President Pagel receives a gift on his reelection from J. S. Delvis, B. K. Pramanik and Bishop Henry Lazarus.

Arno Pagel Reelected President

Rev. Arno Pagel of Kalbertal, West Germany, was reelected president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union in New Delhi. The World's Union is indeed fortunate that Rev. Pagel, who has been most active and effective in the last four years in serving the Lord, through Christian Endeavor around the world, has been willing to continue as president for another four years. Christian Endeavorers around the world are grateful to the Marburger Mission for allowing Arno Pagel to co-mingle his services as director of the Mission with the duties of president of the World's Union.

Other officers elected for the 1978-1982 term are: vice-presidents, Frances M. Becker (U.S.A.), P. A. R. Chesterton (Australia), J. S. Delvis (India), Rev. James Murdoch (Scotland), and Rev. Takashi Oku (Japan); general secretary, Rev. Charles W. Barner (U.S.A.); general secretary of Area II, William J. Sharpe (England); executive secretary and treasurer, Phyllis Rike

(U.S.A.) and assistant treasurer, Clyde Sherk (Canada); Alan Ramsey and Wilfred Bird, both of England, act as chairman and treasurer, respectively, of Area II.

Those elected to serve on the Executive Committee are Arno Pagel, Charles W. Barner, Phyllis I. Rike, William J. Sharpe, Frances M. Becker, Konrad Brandt, Clyde Sherk, and Clyde Meadows.

The members of the Board of Trustees are the previously listed officers plus the Rev. Joseph C. Abun (Sierra Leone), H. L. F. Bolster (Ireland), Rev. Konrad Brandt (Germany), Mrs. Ernest R. Bryan (U.S.A.), Rev. Enrique Capo (Spain), Rev. Roy T. Edwards (Australia), Timothy J. Kribs (U.S.A.), Rev. Colin G. Lewis (Wales), Dr. Albert Luka (Egypt), Arch J. McQuilkin (U.S.A.), Jude Samson (Marshall Islands), Rev. Roger D. Vander Kolk (U.S.A.), Sister Francine van der Meer (The Netherlands), and Harold E. Westerhoff (U.S.A.).

Convention Impressions

From Canada . . .

Having traveled 9,000 miles from home to the World's 18th Christian Endeavour Convention in India, I found it to be a most memorable experience. Perhaps the most impressive and meaningful service to me was the Communion Service. Each delegate from around the world went forward to receive the elements. Some were dressed in colorful sarees with their heads covered; some were in bare feet; some were in their native dress, but all were coming in obedience to the Lord's command when He said, "Do this in remembrance of me."

The Rev. Mr. James Murdoch from Scotland brought the message. He said that we must know Him to partake at His table, and that we should be coming to His table because we are hungry and thirsty for His righteousness.

*Margaret Clarkson
President, Ontario Union*

From Great Britain and Ireland . . .

My impressions of the World's Christian Endeavour Convention in New Delhi, India, are very favourable indeed. To impress means to press into, such as a patch stuck to cloth by means of a hot iron. With the iron of fervour, the motto, "Jesus Christ — the Truth," was indelibly impressed in many lives. Fellowship was

the keynote when greetings and badges were exchanged. How strong is the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love — bound in the bundle of life with Jesus Christ and so with each other. On many occasions, different nationalities joined hands, and hearts were warmed with the glow of Christian fellowship of love. Faith was quickened as God's grace became real in the utter dedication of so many lives.

The convention was an inspiration, and I express thanks for the privilege of being the representative of the British Union.

*James Heron
National Organizer*



Rev. Takashi Oku speaks at convention.



Busy convention registrars handle delegates.

From Japan . . .

What a significant experience it was for me to be able to attend the convention in India. The Vigyan Bhawan was crowded with thousands of Christian Endeavorers coming from all over India and many other countries. They were filled with the Spirit, listening to the Word of God, singing His praises, and we were all convinced of our oneness in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

By the appeal of Mr. Prakash Yesudian of Bangalore, South India, I confirmed my prayer to devote my whole life to the Lord and His Church as His servant.

The convention was well prepared and organized and it was a very good experience for me to meet Christian friends from other countries, especially young people in India. I felt sad to see many poor people in the slums; I wish to find some way to help them.

Finally, I'm thankful for the blessings I received from the convention in New Delhi.

*Rev. Takashi Oku
Vice-President,
World's Union*

From Scotland . . .

I hardly knew what to expect from my first time in India at a World's Christian Endeavor Convention, but all I can say is that my expectations were more than fully exceeded. The Indian Endeavourers gave us a wonderfully gracious welcome and did a marvelous job of organization. My one regret is that not more were able to attend from the British Isles and

especially from my own country of Scotland. We go away with a deep consciousness of having been in the presence of the Lord and in company with so many of His children from all over the world. Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Indian Endeavourers!

*Rev. Jim Murdoch
Vice-President, World's Union*

From Sierra Leone . . .

I have been in the great Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, with dreams being transformed into reality. Hallelujah, praise be to God!

This global act of spiritual unification has really meant more to me than my thoughts could imagine. My soul had been severely hungry, but a heavenly manna has been provided and I am now quite certain that God, being my guide, it shall hunger no more.

My total impression is that it was like the Day of Pentecost, being all gathered together in great expectation for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It indeed poured upon all who were present. I am now confident that a real change has been wrought in my life since Jesus Christ, the Truth, has come into my heart and I have rededicated my whole life to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that the Lord continues to bless the worldwide activities of Christian Endeavor and all those involved in its promotion.

*Samuel B. Johnson
President, Sierra Leone
National Christian Endeavor
Union*

CHOIR



Convention choir under direction of Mr. Jim Hunter.

From the United States . . .

It was my privilege to be the Bible study leader at the 18th World's Christian Endeavor Convention in New Delhi, India. The most impressive thing to me was the careful attention given the study by the Indian Christian Endeavorers. I had their undivided attention for the entire 75 minutes. We, in the west, have allowed our interest span to become so short that we are severely limited in our ability to meditate on God's Truth. We can learn much from our Indian brethren of the interest and care we should give to God's Word.

I was also impressed by the exceptional care our Indian Endeavor leaders gave in planning every detail for hosting us. The Vigyan Bhawan, or Hall of Knowledge, had the finest facilities for our use, including booths for instant translations into Hindi, Tamil, Oriya, and German from English and two canteens for serving both Indian and non-Indian dishes very tastefully. It was a great joy to be at the convention.

*Timothy J. Kribs, president
International Society of Christian
Endeavor*

From the World's Union . . .

As preparations were being made for the 18th World's Christian Endeavor Convention, the question in the minds of some of us was, "Can India rise to the occasion?" In my opinion, not only did they achieve what was expected of them for a World's Convention, they exceeded all expectations. When one considers the switch of venue from Cuttack to Delhi, the shortness of time the local Endeavorers had to prepare, the fact that the few groups in Delhi are comparatively newly formed, one can have nothing but admiration and praise for those leaders who so enthusiastically and expertly marshalled and organized their forces so that, in every department, there was evidence of fine cooperation. It is to be hoped that India will not have to wait another interval of 69 years before acting as hosts to a future World Convention.

*William J. Sharpe
Secretary area II*



Mr. Prakash Yesudian receives an Indian plaque from Bishop Henry Lazarus.

News From Australia

Christian Endeavor 'Down Under' Plans are 'Up and Over'

Australian Christian Endeavourers are planning a World Christian Endeavour Centenary Celebration for Brisbane, Queensland during September, 1981. The keynote theme is "Jesus Christ — The Reason to Live." A provisional committee is already working actively on the groundwork.

Christian Endeavour in Australia Will Be 100 Years Old in June, 1983

The 100th birthday of Christian Endeavour in Australia will happen June 5, 1983. On that date in 1883, Christian Endeavour began at the Hope Street Church of Christ in Geelong, Victoria. Plans are in hand to develop a convention fully worthy of that historic beginning. Preliminary discussions are in progress with the World's Christian Endeavour Union on the possibilities of an Area I Conference being held in Victoria during convention time.

Field Work

Christian Endeavour field work in Australia is gaining new strength and momentum. The appointment of an Honorary National Field Work Coordinator has brought new initiatives and greater scope for in-depth field work throughout Australia.



Samuel Johnson speaks to convention delegates.



Convention scene outside Vigyan Bhawan.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Timothy J. Kribs

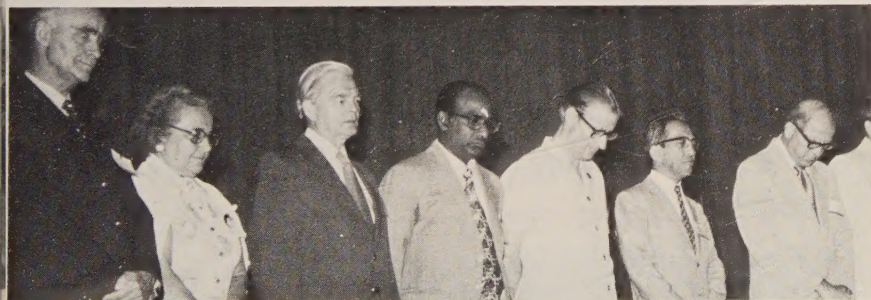
One of the little known characters of the New Testament can be an example to us in developing the kind of attitudes Christ wants us to have. His name is Onesiphorus and he is described in II Timothy 1:16-18.

Paul describes Onesiphorus as having often refreshed him. How do we treat others, do we encourage or discourage them? Are we refreshing like a cup of cold water or are we more like a sandstorm in the desert? The love of Christ is to control us (II Cor. 5:14) and when that happens our attitudes should be refreshing to others.

Onesiphorus was not ashamed of Paul and searched until he found him. Some who need our encouragement are in situations which could make us ashamed of them. Perhaps we are the key to change their attitudes and their situations, but even if we can't do all of that, we can find them and refresh them. If we are going to be like Onesiphorus we must eagerly look for opportunities to be refreshing and of service.

Paul pronounces a blessing on Onesiphorus because of his encouragement of Paul. This reminds me of Matthew 25:31-46 where Jesus pronounces a blessing on those who render service to others. We must imitate the attitudes of Onesiphorus if we want the Lord's blessings.

Jesus went about doing good. It is my prayer that, like Onesiphorus, we will go and do likewise.



The 1978-1982 officers and board of trustees.

HAWAII



The 55th International Christian Endeavor Convention will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Honolulu is located on the Island of Oahu, "The Gathering Place," and truly it will be the gathering place for more than 2,000 Endeavorers from the Mainland, the Island State and the Pacific Area Basin July 3-7, 1979. In conjunction with this convention we have developed a basic tour to Honolulu including round trip airfare, traditional flower lei greeting, hotel accommodations for 7 nights, half-day tour of Honolulu, airport to hotel transfers, baggage handling and taxes and gratuities on these features for only \$533 (triple occupancy) from Chicago. Optional extensions to the Garden Isle of Kauai and the Orchid Isle of Hawaii are available for a minimal add-on amount. For full information on this exciting tour including departure cities and full price range, write to the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

-----Send your reservation today-----

Rev. Charles W. Barner, Tour Director
International Society of Christian Endeavor
1221 East Broad Street, P.O. Box 1110
Columbus, Ohio 43216

- ☐ Please send the Hawaii 79 Tour Itinerary
☐ Please reserve a place for me in the Christian Endeavor Fellowship Tour to Hawaii. I enclose \$100 and will pay balance as scheduled.

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